

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAFE RKTNCIN AFB

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

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UNCLAS BUDAPEST 0580

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS CGEN CPAS HU

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON TRAVEL TO AND WITHIN HUNGARY

1. EMBASSY BUDAPEST IS CURRENTLY PREPARING A COMPREHENSIVE AIRGRAM FOR DEPARTMENT AND EUORPE-WIDE DISTRIBUTION REPORTING CURRENT VISA AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR TOURIST AND OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO HUNGARY. THE AIRGRAM WILL INCORPORATE A SECTION ON "DO'S AND DONT'S IN HUNGARY" WITH REFERENCE TO CUSTOMS DIFFICULTIES, PHOTOGRAPHY RESTRICTIONS, AND OTHER ITEMS.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THIS TELEGRAM IS TO SOLICIT ADDRESSEES' SUGGESTIONS FOR ITEMS TO COVER IN THE AIRGRAM. WHAT PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS HAVE YOU AND YOUR CONSITUENT POSTS HAD IN REGARD TO TRAVEL TO HUNGARY BY PRIVATE AND OFFICIAL AMERICANS IN YOUR UNCLASSIFIED

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AREAS, MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS OF U.S.

FORCES, AND DOD CIVILIANS? WHAT MAY WE INCLUDE IN THE AIRGRAM OF USE TO YOU?

3. FOR MUNICH: EMBASSY BUDAPEST FILES REFLECT YOUR VINTAGE-1974 REPORT OF DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING HUNGARIAN TOURIST VISAS BY HOLDERS OF U.S. FEE AND NO-FEE PASSPORTS WHICH BEAR MILITARY "STATUS OF FORCES" STAMPS. IS THIS A CURRENT PROBLEM? IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE TELEGRAPHICALLY THE FORMAT AND PURPOSES OF SUCH STAMPS, AND POUCH A SAMPLE STAMP IMPRESSION. IF PROBLEM IS SIGNIFICANT, EMBASSY BUDAPEST CONTEMPLATES RAISING MATTER WITH HUNGARIAN MFA.

4. FOR BONN: PLEASE ADVISE WHAT YOUR PROCEDURES ARE FOR PERSONS SEEKING NO-FEE "COURTESY" HUNGARIAN VISAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITING WITH STAFF MEMBERS OF AMERICAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST. HUNGARIAN MFA HAS CONSISTENTLY STATED THAT SUCH PERSONS MAY APPLY DIRECTLY FOR SUCH VISAS TO HUNGARIAN EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES, WITH THE APPLICATION SUPPORTED BY A SIMPLE LETTER FROM VISA-SEEKING AMCIT IDENTIFYING THE STAFF MEMBER OF AMERICAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST. THEN THE APPLICATION IS APPROVED BY HUNGARIAN MFA, WHICH HAS CURRENT LIST OF STAFF MEMBERS OF AMERICAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST. HOWEVER WE WERE RECENTLY INFORMED THAT EMBASSY BONN IS REQUIRED TO NOTIFY SUCH REQUESTS TO HUNGEMB COLOGNE. PLEASE CLARIFY.

5. FOR DEPARTMENT: FORTHCOMING AIRGRAM WILL REPLY FULLY TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN DEPARTMENT'S (PPT/FC) OM OF JANUARY 5, 1976 AND PREVIOUS.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE TELEGRAPHIC REPLIES NO LATER THAN MARCH 5, 1976.
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